PUBLIC



REGULAR BOARD

2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

To the sensible person education is like a golden ornament, and like a bracelet on the right arm. Sirach 21:21

Drafted	Meeting Date
February 7, 2022	February 17, 2022
Lori DiMarco, Superintendent of Curriculum Leadership & Innovation; AICT	
Shazia Vlahos, Chief of Communications and Government Relations	

RECOMMENDATION REPORT

Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Mission:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



Brendan Browne Director of Education

Adrian Della Mora Associate Director of Academic Affairs & Chief Operating Officer

Derek Boyce Associate Director of Facilities, Business & Community Development

Ryan Putnam Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The school year calendar is prepared and submitted annually to the Ministry of Education (MOE), in accordance with the Education Act and Ont. Regulation 304, School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days.

A request for the TCDSB to modify the Ministry of Education 2022-2023 school year calendar must be submitted to the MOE by March 1, 2022.

This report recommends that the Board of Trustees approve:

- A request to be made to the Ministry of Education for a modified school year calendar for the 2022-2023 school year which includes Christmas Break from December 26, 2022 to January 6, 2023 and the PA Days outlined in Appendix A.
- The communication plan outlined in this report in Section D.

Highlights:

- This selection of PA days was done in consultation with our Academic/Business Advisory Committee (AcBac) Committee members.
- After the initial consultation with the AcBac Committee, a survey of parents, students and staff was conducted, and we are recommending changing the Christmas Break from the dates defined by the Education Act.
- The calendar aligns with that of the Toronto District School Board and the alignment will minimize additional transportation costs for both boards.
- Secondary schools, in consultation with their Local School Staffing Advisory Committee (LSSAC), may schedule a Professional Activity Day to align with the day following one of the Parent-Teacher Interview nights.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 30 hours.

B. PURPOSE

- 1. To provide information on what governs the development of the school year calendar.
- 2. To outline a communication plan that encompasses the TCDSB community.
- 3. To present the 2022-2023 school year calendar as agreed to, through a consensus process, by the Academic/Business Advisory Committee (AcBac) members.

C. BACKGROUND

- 1. Annually the Board establishes the school year calendar in accordance with the Education Act and Ont. Regulation 304.
- 2. The TCDSB must approve a school year calendar that includes a minimum of 194 school days, of which no more than seven (7) will be professional activity (PA) days and at least 187 will be instructional days. Three (3) of the seven PA Days must be devoted to provincial education priorities as set out by the Ministry of Education. In the case of secondary schools, no more than ten (10) instructional days can be designated as exam days.
- 3. The selection of the PA days for the 2022-2023 school year has been in consultation with our Academic/Business Advisory Committee (AcBac) Committee members.
- 4. The AcBac Committee consists of members of Senior Staff and representatives from each union, association and various board departments (including Transportation, Payroll, Communications and Human Resources).
- 5. PA days have been aligned with the TDSB to minimize any additional transportation costs.
- 6. The Ministry of Education base calendar for 2022-2023 recommends Christmas Break from December 19, 2022 to December 31, 2022 with a statutory holiday on Monday, Jan 2, 2023.

- 7. The TCDSB has surveyed parents of K-Gr 11 students, students in Gr 7-11, staff, CSPCs, CPIC, OAPCE and Child Care providers with regard to preference for the dates of the Christmas Break. There were 18,932 responses to the Christmas Break survey with a response rate of 63% in favour of moving the Christmas Break to the period of December 26, 2022 to January 6, 2023.
- 8. Making a change to the Ministry of Education base calendar, requires that a request be submitted to the Ministry of Education for a modified calendar no later than March 1, 2022. As such, this report recommends making this request based on the preference for a later Christmas Break.
- 9. The Ministry of Education requested school boards to consider designating a time for teachers to complete the Sexual Abuse Prevention Program, as required by the Ontario College of Teachers during one of the Mandatory PA days prior to September 15, 2022. The PA Day that would normally be reserved for June 30, 2023 will be moved to Tuesday, September 6, 2022 to accommodate this request.
- The Ministry of Education requested school boards to consider designating a PA day to align with Municipal Elections on Monday, October 24, 2022. After discussion with the committee, Education Council and with TDSB we will not be scheduling a PA day on this date.
- 11. Student instruction will begin on Wednesday, September 7, 2022.
- 12. Summary of the proposed 2022-2023 school year calendar
 - a) <u>Elementary Schools:</u>
 - Two PA days are to be used for parent-teacher conferences, as per the Collective Agreement.
 - Two PA days are to be used for assessment and completion of report cards, as per the Collective Agreement.
 - Three PA days are to be used for Provincial Education Priorities of which one half day will be devoted to Faith Development.
 - b) <u>Secondary Schools:</u>
 - Three PA days devoted to Provincial Education Priorities and supporting Article 19 (Joint Professional Development Committee) of the Collective Agreement
 - One PA day devoted to Faith Development.

- The remaining three PA days will be devoted to system priorities, annual learning plans and local goals articulated in the School Improvement and Equity Plan.
- c) The remaining school days shall be instructional days, which for secondary schools will include ten (10) examination days.

D. COMMUNICATIONS

The 2022-2023 school year calendar will be communicated in the following ways, **only after** we have received Ministry of Education approval for our requested modified calendar:

- 1. Letter to families, staff, SEAC, CPIC, CSPC Chairs and OAPCE-Toronto
- 2. Insert for school newsletters
- 3. TCDSB website
- 4. Social media channels

E. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Trustees approve:

- A request to be made to the Ministry of Education for a modified school year calendar for the 2022-2023 school year which includes Christmas Break from December 26, 2022 to January 6, 2023 and the PA Days outlined in Appendix A.
- 2. The communication plan outlined in this report in Section D.